

IN HONOR OF THE 22D ANNIVERSARY OF THE GRAY PANTHERS OF METRO DETROIT

**HON. DAVID E. BONIOR**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 20, 2000*

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the 22d anniversary of one of Metro Detroit's most active and valuable organizations. For more than two decades, the Gray Panthers of Metro Detroit have been organized with the goal of advancing the causes of aging Americans and social justice for all.

The Gray Panthers were established on a national level in 1970. But it wasn't until 1978 that Lillian Rosinger, inspired by the dedication to social reform of Gray Panthers founder Maggie Kuhn, organized and was elected first convener of the Metro North Gray Panthers.

In the 22 years that followed, the all-volunteer network of grass roots activists has touched the lives of citizens across the tri-county area. They are a diverse combination of both younger and older people dreaming and working together for a better society. They have long championed the idea of a single payer health care system that will cover all Americans, young and old, rich or poor. The Gray Panthers have also taken strong, well-researched positions which support the strengthening of Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid.

True to their founding, the Gray Panthers have vigorously opposed discrimination based on age, sex, and race. They have put their hearts, minds and bodies on the lines in rallies, protest marches and public gatherings nationwide. At the local level, they can be seen rallying in support of locked out newspaper strikers or organizing a "Medicare For All" petition drive. Through their newsletters, website and e-mail action alerts, members have contacted elected officials in support of causes they cherish and in opposition to legislation they deem irresponsible.

Please join me in recognizing the Gray Panthers of Metro Detroit's 22d year as a force for positive social change in the Detroit and its surrounding areas.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DRUG COMPETITION ACT OF 2000

**HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 20, 2000*

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Drug Competition Act of 2000.

This legislation would correct a grossly anti-competitive abuse by branded and generic drug companies of the generic drug approval process. Only recently have we learned that such companies, which usually operate as fierce competitors to the benefit of American consumers, can strike collusive agreements to trade multimillion dollar payoffs by the brand company for delays in the introduction of lower cost, generic alternatives.

These sweetheart deals have earned the scrutiny of the Federal Trade Commission and the Food and Drug Administration. The FTC recently undertook consent agreements and

enforcement actions against several companies which have engaged in such deals. But more can be done to prevent them from recurring.

I am very pleased to have collaborated with Senator LEAHY of Vermont, the ranking member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, in drafting this legislation. The Drug Competition Act would simply require companies seeking to reach secret, anticompetitive agreements to disclose them to the FTC and FDA. Disclosure of these agreements would enable Federal authorities to ensure that existing antitrust and drug approval laws are enforced to the letter. In sum, American consumers can be protected from anticompetitive abuses by the application of a little "sunshine."

I am very pleased this bill is being introduced with bipartisan support, and I urge my colleagues to join us in cosponsoring the Drug Competition Act of 2000.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 20, 2000*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, due to illness, I was not able to vote during consideration of rollcall 46–476. Had I been present, I would have voted: "aye" on rollcall numbers 460–465, 469, 471–472 and 475; "no" on rollcall numbers 466–468, 470, 473–474, and 476.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE FOURTH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. MAC COLLINS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 20, 2000*

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, it has been 2000 years since our Lord was borne, and for one hundred of those years, his people have been served by the Fourth Street Missionary Baptist Church. I wish that prior obligations did not prevent me from joining you as you celebrate this milestone in your impressive new sanctuary.

But I am reminded that Jesus said his church would be built of living stones—of people—who are far more important than any structure, no matter how great and how beautiful it is.

When Fourth Street Missionary Baptist Church was founded a century ago by Reverend Willie Carter and Reverend John Bellamy, the church family worshipped under a brush arbor of vine and fig tree leaves. A man of this world would have seen a small group praying under a humble roof of green which would turn brown by winter. But a man of the spirit would have seen God laying living foundation stones for a church that would still be standing and growing 100 years hence.

Like many church bodies, the Fourth Street Missionary Baptist Church evolved over time. Originally part of the Mount Canaan Baptist Church, its members formed the New Mount Canaan Baptist Church. In 1905, a plot of land was purchased on Fourth Street, where a small shelter was built and the church body

met in the home of Deacon and Sister B.A. Parker. At this time, it adopted its present name. In 1935, reflecting the growing church body, a new sanctuary was built at the corner of Third Avenue and Fifth Street.

In 1961, Reverend Johnny Flakes Jr. accepted the call to pastor the church and helped lead the church into a bright future.

Under his leadership, the church was renovated in 1966. In 1977, a new two-story education building with a kitchen and banquet hall was built. In 1999, work was finished on your new state of the art sanctuary. More importantly, he was working, with God's grace, to build the real body of the church. Membership is over 3000, and growing, both in numbers and in spirit.

This church is a living demonstration of the power of God to work in men and women's lives. Rev. Flakes, your church has had a glorious first century, and God willing, it will have many more to come. Congratulations.

PARTNERSHIP FOR INTERNATIONAL FOOD RELIEF, H.R. 5224

**HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 20, 2000*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the International Food Relief Partnership Act, H.R. 5224, legislation that authorizes the stockpiling and rapid transportation, delivery and distribution of shelf stable pre-packaged foods to needy individuals in foreign countries. This legislation creates a public-private partnerships to leverage the donation of nutritious food by volunteers to needy families around the globe at times of famine, disaster and other critical needs. I am pleased to join the Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture, Mr. COMBEST, the distinguished gentleman from Texas, and the Ranking Member of the Committee on Agriculture, the distinguished gentleman from Texas, Mr. STENHOLM, and the distinguished Chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific of the International Relations Committee, the distinguished gentleman from Nebraska, Mr. BE-REUTER, in introducing this important legislation.

There is a gap in the United States' traditional international food relief effort and food reserve program that makes participation by non-profit organizations that want to contribute donated food extremely difficult. The major barrier to these volunteer contributions is the high cost of providing these donated food products to international relief organizations that transport and distribute food overseas. Agri-business efficiently and effectively provides assistance at times of greatest need through international food relief organizations that work through the Agency for International Development (AID). However, non-profits have a much more difficult time reaching international relief organizations to provide food assistance because of the high cost of processing, packaging, maintaining and shipping donated food. Consequently, food donated by non-profits is often delayed from reaching affected populations, or is simply not used for this purpose.

The International Food Relief Partnership Act will fill this gap by providing grant assistance outside the traditional food relief program